AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended)   An enhanced interactive voice response system, comprising:

   a call router to route an internet protocol telephony call;

   an interactive voice response application to receive the Internet protocol telephony call from the call router; and

   a telephony API provided by a TAPI application component and used by the application to form a connection with a caller and control a media stream transmitted over the connection, the TAPI application component for registering pluggable terminal objects with a terminal manager by providing a terminal class name, a media type, and a method of signaling events and for providing a list of registered terminal objects including the registered media type,

   wherein the application selects by selecting a terminal object from among a groupthe list of registered terminal objects, wherein each terminal object adhering adheres to a uniform interface, each providingprovides specific functionality to process the media stream, is of a type created under the direction of the application, and is associated with a virtual or non-virtual device, and wherein various programmers can provide registerable telephony services using terminal objects that rely on the telephony API.

2.   (Original)   The system of claim 1, further comprising a gateway coupled to the call router.

3.   (Original)   The system of claim 2, further comprising a public switched telephone network coupled to the gateway.

4.   (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the gateway translates telephony calls based on communication protocols of a public switched telephone network to telephony calls based on internet protocols.

5.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a client computer, wherein a user at the client computer receives the internet telephony call routed from the router based upon the caller's interaction with the interactive voice response application.

6.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a data store.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the call router stores call information in the data store.

8.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the interactive voice response application stores call information in the data store.

9.   (Cancelled)

10.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6, wherein a client computer retrieves call information from the data store.

11-77. (Cancelled)

78.   (Currently Amended) A method of handling an internet protocol telephony call in an interactive voice response application, comprising:
    listening for an internet protocol telephony call;
    receiving an internet protocol telephony call from a call router;

forming a connection with a caller using a telephony API provided by a TAPI application component, the TAPI application component for registering pluggable terminal objects with a terminal manager by providing a terminal class name, a media type, and a method of signaling events and for providing a list of registered terminal objects including the registered media type; and

controlling a media stream transmitted over the connection by selecting a terminal object from ~~among a group~~the list of registered terminal objects exposed by ~~a~~ the telephony API,

wherein each terminal object adheres ~~and adhering~~ to a uniform interface, ~~each providing~~provides specific functionality to process the media stream, is of a type created under the direction of the application, and is associated with a virtual or non-virtual device, and wherein various programmers can provide registerable telephony services using terminal objects that rely on the telephony API.

79.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 78 wherein the selected terminal object performs speech recognition on the media stream.

80.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 including loading a grammar for speech recognition.

81.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 80 wherein the grammar is loaded from an XML file.

82.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 78 wherein the selected terminal object performs recognition of touch tones on the media stream.

83.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 78 wherein the selected terminal object performs speech generation on the media stream to provide a menu of choices to the caller.

84.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83 wherein the menu of choices is read from an XML file.

85.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system to handle an internet protocol telephony call in an interactive voice response application, by a method comprising:

receiving an internet protocol telephony call from a call router;

forming a connection with a caller using a telephony API provided by a TAPI application component, the TAPI application component for registering pluggable terminal objects with a terminal manager by providing a terminal class name, a media type, and a method of signaling events and for providing a list of registered terminal objects including the registered media type; and

controlling a media stream transmitted over the connection by selecting a terminal object from the listamong a group of registered terminal objects exposed by a the telephony API,

wherein each terminal object adheres and adhering to a uniform interface, each providingprovides specific functionality to process the media stream, is of a type created under the direction of the application, and is associated with a virtual or non-virtual device, and wherein various programmers can provide registerable telephony services using terminal objects that rely on the telephony API.

86.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 85 wherein the selected terminal object performs speech recognition on the media stream.

87.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 86 including loading a grammar for speech recognition.

88.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 87 wherein the grammar is loaded from an XML file.

89.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 85 wherein the selected terminal object performs recognition of touch tones on the media stream.

90.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 85 wherein the selected terminal object performs speech generation on the media stream to provide a menu of choices to the caller.

91.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 90 wherein the menu of choices is read from an XML file.